

SENATE BILL NO. 94

BY SENATOR MURRAY AND REPRESENTATIVES BROSSETT, HINES AND STIAES

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:72.5, relative to a fraudulent postsecondary education degree; to create the crime of the unlawful production, manufacture, distribution, or possession of a fraudulent postsecondary education degree; to provide for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:72.5 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§72.5. Unlawful production, manufacture, distribution or possession of fraudulent postsecondary education degree

A. No person shall knowingly or intentionally buy, sell, produce, manufacture, or distribute for any purpose a fraudulent postsecondary education degree or other document purporting to confer any degree or certify the completion in whole or in part of any course of study.

B. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Distribute a fraudulent postsecondary education degree" means to sell, give, transport, issue, provide, lend, deliver, transfer, transmit, distribute, or disseminate a fraudulent postsecondary education degree for any purpose.

(2) "Fraudulent postsecondary education degree" means a credential presented as a degree which provides information that is false, forged, altered, or counterfeit and signifies the satisfactory completion of the requirements of a postsecondary education program.

(3) "Produce or manufacture fraudulent postsecondary education degree" means to develop, prepare, design, create, or process a fraudulent postsecondary education degree for any purpose.

1 C. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not
 2 more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or
 3 both.

4 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 8 effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____